



QUEEN GETS PREVIEW—Miss Melise Ross, queen of this year's President's Cup Regatta, and her court take a ride down the Potomac aboard the Audmar, owned by Mr. Marvin Broyhill (right rear). Left to right, the girls are Jacquelyn McCartney, Elizabeth Thatcher, Eleanor Burger, Melise Ross, Beverly Bland, Catherine Cabell and Deborah Gude. Elizabeth Barnes, another princess, was absent.—Star Staff Photo.

Queen Announced For 1955 Regatta

By FRANCES LIDE

An "Air Force fledgling" who loves to sail will reign over the 1955 President's Cup Regatta.

Melise Ross, 18-year-old daughter of Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Stoyte O. Ross, will be crowned queen on September 16 in colorful ceremonies at Hains Point inaugurating the annual power boat and sailing races.

Her father is commanding general, headquarters command, Bolling Air Force Base, and a boating enthusiast himself.

The identity of the queen was a closely guarded secret until yesterday afternoon, when blond Melise and members of her court, with their escorts, were introduced at a reception at the Sheraton-Carlton Hotel given by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Baker.

Immediately afterward, the queen and her court enjoyed a trip down the Potomac as guests of Marvin T. Broyhill, jr., commodore of the Corinthian Yacht Club, aboard his yacht, the Audmar.

"It's wonderful—so relaxing!" exclaimed Melise, her blue eyes sparkling as the wind whipped her light brown hair.

The queen's escort, selected by the Coronation Committee, will be an Air Force officer, Lt. Richard W. Velde, who is stationed at Bolling.

Members of Court

The princesses in her court, announced by Coronation Committee Chairman Edgar Morris, are Miss Catharine Cabell, daughter of Air Force Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Charles P. Cabell; Miss Beverly Bland, daughter of Mrs. Julius Castigliola; Miss Elizabeth Barnes, daughter of Navy Capt. and Mrs. Robert McCumber Barnes; Miss Eleanor Burger, daughter of Marine Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Joseph C. Burger; Miss Elizabeth Thatcher, daughter of Air Force Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Herbert B. Thatcher; Miss Jacquelyn McCartney, daughter of Mr. John N. McCartney and Mrs. June H. McCartney; and Miss Deborah Gude, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Granville Gude. Their escorts—all officers of

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State "because both my par- mittee who, with Capt. Floyd
ice chair-
high, annually selects the par-
ticipants.

Gainesville. She is a graduate of the Woodrow Wilson High School and made her debut here last summer.

She still has some shopping to do for her college wardrobe and suspects she will need a few more things for the regatta events. "I guess I'll start out first thing in the morning," she said last night.

On hand for yesterday's announcement party was her brother Gil, who will be 15 next month and shares the family enthusiasm for boats. Asked what he thought of having a regatta queen in the family he hesitated. "Well, it's sort of terrific," he declared finally.

The queen's attendants and their escorts had a chance to become acquainted Tuesday night at an informal party given by Gen. and Mrs. Ross.

"Although the girls and their escorts usually don't know each other beforehand, they always get along just fine, right from the start," recalled Mrs.

Romance Recalled

Sometimes, these acquaintances blossom into romances. Pat Priest, who was the 1953 queen, was introduced to her future husband, Lt. Comdr. Pierce Andrew Jensen, jr., USN, at the regatta festivities, several committee members pointed out.

Regatta events this year will include an aquapageant preceding the coronation, which will be followed by an illuminated boat parade—all on the 16th.

The power boat races will be held September 17 and 18 and the sailing races on September 24 and 25.

The queen and her court will be feted at a party at the Hotel Statler following the coronation, and the next day they will be entertained at a brunch at the Raleigh Hotel.

Gen. Ross, who has served on the Coronation Committee for the last several years, and Mrs. Ross will give a party for Thursday.

the military services and White House aides—will be Capt. Joseph C. Petrone, jr., USA; 1st Lt. Edward S. Nelson, USA; Ensign Fox H. Johnson, USN; Capt. Robert F. Swantz, USAF; 1st Lt. Richard W. Coulter, USMC, Lt. (j. g.) John T. Pierson, USN, and 1st Lt. Homer L. Lützenberg, USMC.

Claims Florida as Home
Queen Melise, who was born